IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract Of The Disclosure as follows:

An immunoassay method and test kit for detecting autoantibody in a patient sample, such as autoantibodies that inferfere[[s]] with the complexation of intrinsic factor with vitamin B12. A labeled receptor, i.e., intrinsic factor, bound to a solid phase, is mixed with the sample and then combined with an anti-intrinsic factor antibody that binds competitively with the autoantibody to intrinsic factor. ~~bound to a solid phase is added and~~ The presence of autoantibody in the sample is then determined.

On page 8 of the specification, please replace paragraph [27] with the following:

[27] In another embodiment, the present invention provides a test kit for performing assays for autoantibodies. The test kit includes (a) a container containing labeled receptor, the labeled receptor having a specific binding site for the autoantibody being determined; (b) a container containing a binding pair member capable of binding to the labeled receptor at the binding site for the autoantibody, said binding pair member being bound to a solid phase; and (c) an interference blocking reagent capable of specifically binding to a substance in the sample, the substance being capable of binding to the autoantibody binding site of the labeled receptor. "Container" as used herein may be one portion of a reagent pack into which separate components may be placed to keep the components from coming into contact with each other. In one aspect of the invention, the kit is adapted for use with an automated immunoassay analyzer, such as the ACCESS® Immunoassay System, the ACCESS® 2 Immunoassay System, the ~~UniCel~~ UNICEL™ DxI 800 Immunoassay

System and the ~~Synchron LX®~~ SYNCHRON® LX I 725 Clinical System (the "Beckman Systems"), each of which is available from Beckman Coulter, Inc. of Fullerton, CA.

On page 10 of the specification, please replace paragraph [35] with the following:

[35] The assay to determine the presence or amount of autoantibodies to intrinsic factor was conducted using the ACCESS® Immunoassay Analyzer. 55 microliters of the interference blocking reagent was drawn from reagent well comprising anti-B12 antibody in a concentration of about 4.3 micrograms/milliliter and 50 microliters deposited into a reaction vessel. 50 microliters of sample was then added to the reaction vessel. 50 microliters of intrinsic factor-alkaline phosphatase conjugate was added to the reaction vessel and the mixture was incubated for 20 minutes at about 37°C. 55 microliters of the anti-intrinsic factor coated solid phase were aspirated from a reagent well comprising solid phase at a concentration of about 1.0 milligrams/milliliter. 50 microliters were added to the reaction vessel and the mixture allowed to incubate for five minutes at about 37°C. The solid phase was separated from the liquid phase and washed three times. A chemiluminescent substrate that reacts with alkaline phosphatase to generate a detectable signal (~~Lumi-Phos~~ LUMI-PHOS® 530, commercially available from Lumigen, Inc., Detroit, MI) was then added to the reaction vessel and the signal measured with a luminometer. The assay is semi-quantitative. The results were reported as a ratio of relative light units (RLUs) of total RLUs of a calibrator divided by the sample RLUs. As the amount of

antoantibodies to intrinsic factor increase, the signal decreases and results ratio increases. Results may be reported as negative, equivocal or positive for autoantibodies. If a quantitative result is desired a determination of the amount of autoantibodies present in the sample may be determined from a stored calibration. The results are expressed in Antibody Units/milliliter (AU/mL).